

REMARKS

In this paper, claim 1 is currently amended, and claim 22 has been added. After entry of the above amendment, claims 1-22 are pending.

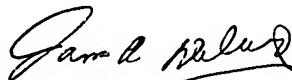
Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gewelber, et al (US 5,626,211). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that at least a majority of the disk brake rotor apparatus between the outermost lateral side surfaces is substantially free of voids. New claim 22 recites substantially all of the disk brake rotor apparatus between the outermost lateral side surfaces is substantially free of voids. Both features are readily apparent from Fig. 7.

Gewelber, et al disclose a multi-layer disk brake rotor wherein external plates (10) sandwich a plurality of fins (26) spaced apart by fin spacers (36) in order to remove heat during operation. The disk brake rotor apparatus recited in independent claims 1 and 22 do not have such spacing. Furthermore, there is not motivation to modify the Gewelber, et al disk brake rotor to eliminate the spacing therein because such would destroy the intended cooling function of the rotor.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 has been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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